



Receipt date: 06/06/2007

PATENT APPLICATION 10/591858 - GAU: 3744

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Tomonari TAGUCHI

Group Art Unit: 3744

Application No.: 10/591,858

Filed: September 6, 2006

Docket No.: 129316

For: EXHAUST HEAT RECOVERY POWER GENERATION DEVICE AND AUTOMOBILE  
EQUIPPED THEREWITH

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. One or more reference cited herein was cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign Office Action is attached for the Examiner's information. See Reference 1.
- ☒ 3. An English language Abstract of one or more non-English language reference is attached. See Reference 1.
- ☒ 4. A computer-generated English language translation of one or more Japanese Patent Publication cited herein has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office (<http://www.jpo.go.jp>), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See Reference 1.
- ☒ 5. JP-A-2001-012240, cited in the foreign Office Action, was previously cited in an Information Disclosure Statement filed on September 6, 2006 and thus is not presently being submitted.

Respectfully submitted,

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JAO:RBI/abs

Date: June 6, 2007

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ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /C.C./

Mailed May 8, 2007

NOTICE OF GROUNDS OF REJECTION

|                        |                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Patent Application No. | 2004-113361                |
| Drafting Date          | April 19, 2007             |
| Patent Office Examiner | Yoichi Shomura (9718 3Z00) |
| Attorney               | Mr. Hisao Fukami (et al.)  |
| Applied Provision      | Paragraph 29 of Article 2  |

The present application is recognized as rejected on the following ground. It is required that any remarks be submitted within 60 days from the date on which the present NOTICE was mailed.

## GROUNDS

It is recognized that, because the invention described in Claim(s) of SCOPE OF CLAIMS FOR PATENT of the present application could have been invented readily by a person having ordinary knowledge in the field of the art to which the present invention pertains prior to the filing of the present application based on the invention as described in the following publication(s) distributed or the invention as made available to the public through electric telecommunication lines in Japan and/or foreign countries prior to the filing of the present application, a patent cannot be granted thereto under the provision of Paragraph 2 of Article 29 of the Patent Law.

## REMARKS (See the list of the cited references.)

Claims 1-5

References 1 and 2

Reference 1 describes an invention including a cooling path extending along an exhaust pipe and passing a coolant therethrough to cool exhaust heat (with reference to

Fig. 2, the coolant flows in a direction opposite to that of exhaust), and a thermoelement providing thermoelectric power generation that is disposed between the exhaust pipe and the cooling path.

Reference 2 describes a hybrid vehicle converting exhaust heat by a thermoelement to electrical power and charging a battery with the power.

A skilled artisan would have readily arrived at applying utilizing heat obtained from an exhaust pipe to provide thermoelectric power generation as described in reference 1 to the hybrid vehicle converting exhaust heat to electrical power as described in reference 2.

#### Claim 6

#### References 1 and 2

It is a common technical matter to control an engine output in a hybrid vehicle in accordance with a required output and a battery's availability, and there is not found a particular difficulty in controlling the engine output in the hybrid vehicle in accordance with the required output and the battery's availability in addition to power provided by the thermoelectric power generation of references 1 and 2.

#### LIST OF CITED REFERENCES

- (1) Japanese Patent Laying-Open No. 2001-012240
- (2) Japanese Patent Laying-Open No. 2001-023666

#### Record of Search for Prior Art Documents

|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| * Searched Technical Field | B60K 6/04  |
|                            | B60W 20/00 |

If any grounds of rejection are newly found, the grounds of rejection will be noticed.

Receipt date: 66/06/2007

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|---|-------------|--|------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Form 1449<br>(REV. 1/06)  |             | US Dept. of Commerce<br>PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE      |            | ATTY DOCKET NO.<br>129316        |                             | APPLICATION NO.<br>10/591,858  |  |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT<br><br>(Use several sheets if necessary)   |             |  |            | APPLICANT<br>Tomonari TAGUCHI    |                             |                                |  |
|   |             |  |            | FILING DATE<br>September 6, 2006 |                             | GROUP <del>3614</del> 3618     |  |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS   |             |  |            |                                  |                             |                                |  |
| Examiner<br>Initials  | Cite<br>No. | Document Number  | Date       | Name                             |                             |                                |  |
|   |             |  |            |                                  |                             |                                |  |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS  |             |  |            |                                  |                             |                                |  |
| Examiner<br>Initials  | Cite<br>No. | Document Number  | Date       | Country                          | With<br>English<br>Abstract | With<br>English<br>Translation |  |
| /C.C./  | 1           | JP-A-2001-023666                                       | 01/26/2001 | Japan                            | X                           | X                              |  |
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| OTHER DOCUMENTS   |             |  |            |                                  |                             |                                |  |
| Examiner<br>Initials  | Cite<br>No. | (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) |            |                                  |                             |                                |  |
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| EXAMINER  |             |  |            | DATE CONSIDERED                  |                             |                                |  |
| /Chiedu Chibogu/  |             |  |            | 05/08/2009                       |                             |                                |  |
| Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. |             |  |            |                                  |                             |                                |  |

Date: June 6, 2007

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /C.C./